S/N unknown PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

TAJIMA et al.

Examiner:

unknown

Serial No.:

unknown

Group Art Unit:

unknown

Filed:

concurrent herewith

Docket No.:

8373.324US01

Title:

VEHICLE STEERING APPARATUS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 347832733 US

Date of Deposit: January 20, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: Jelsa Undless
Name: TERESA ANDERSON

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

P.O. Box 2903

Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903

(612)332.5300

Bv:

Curtis B. Hamre

Reg. No. 29,165

CBH/nel

23552

Dated: JANUARY 20, 2004

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

(Use several sheets if necessary)

FORM 1449*
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
IN AN APPLICATION

Docket Number:
8373.324US01

UNKNOWN

Applicant: TAJIMA et al.

Filing Date: CONCURRENT

HEREWITH

Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS EXAMINER DOCUMENT NO. DATE **CLASS SUBCLASS** NAME FILING DATE INITIAL IF APPROPRIATE FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS COUNTRY DOCUMENT NO. DATE **CLASS SUBCLASS TRANSLATION** YES NO 6-86222 1994.11.2 **JAPAN ABSTRACT** 6-92250 1994.4.5 **JAPAN ABSTRACT** OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

23552	
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED		
	 <u> </u>	 	

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.